

- [54] METHOD FOR SIMULTANEOUS UPDATE AND CHANGE IN PARENT AND CHILD WINDOWS
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- [58] Field of Search 395/157, 160, 147, 146

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[57] ABSTRACT

A technique which automatically updates and changes

hierarchically related windows of an application. Code stored in the memory of a data processing system performs an automatic search on the data structures associated with each window also stored in memory to determine whether the window is related to the window in which the user is currently manipulating data. If the window is related, another search is performed to determine whether the related window also contains the data to be changed. Once all occurrences of the data within the related windows have been identified, the simultaneous update of the data within all related windows is performed. In the preferred embodiment, the method is implemented by a set of programs for controlling a data processing system. The data processing system includes a processor, a memory, and a display. Other elements preferably included in such a data processing system include a printer, a read only memory disk storage and I/O equipment. The memory stores a set of program modules which provides instructions to the processor to control the graphical interface presented on the display and to manipulate data entered by the user by the keyboard, mouse or other input means. The memory also stores code which controls the automatic updating of the related windows in the multiwindowing environment. Further, the memory stores a database which contains the data structures associated with each of the windows and icons therein.

11 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

